

news

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Hello Switzerland Calling

Ladies and Gentlemen

Twenty five years have passed since the
out break of the last world war and now a
new one has begun. ~~And~~ Two of Switzerland's
big neighbours are again engaged in destruction,
France and Germany.

Switzerland the little peaceful nation
in the heart of the continent has proclaimed
its absolute decision of neutrality. It did so
true to its mission which is to guard
the mountain passes connecting Germany
~~to~~ ^{to} the mediterenian countries, western
Europe to the danubian basin. Switzerland

has communicated to the interested powers
a diplomatic note, & reading as follows:

"The international tension which has obliged the
" Swiss Confederation to adopt military measures
" invites it to manifest once again its unbreakable
" will not to abandon in ~~any~~^{any} the principles
" of neutrality which inspired its politics for
" several hundred years and to which the Swiss
" people are deeply attached because they
" correspond to their aspirations, to their
" interior organisations, to their situation
" toward foreign nations.

" Strengthened ~~by~~ with the special
" mandate which the federal Assembly

" has just given it, the federal council ^{formally}

- " declares that the Swiss Confederation will
- " ~~mean~~ keep and defend by all means
- " in its power the ~~inviolability~~ integrity
- " of its territory and the neutrality with the
- " treaties of 1815 as well as the engagements
- " completing them declare to be the
- " true interests of the entire European
- " politics.

" the Confederation will put its honour

- " in making easier, as done during the
- " last wars, the impartial activity of
- " humanitarian works likely to lessen
- " the suffering grown out of a conflict.

- Relying on the assurances will have "been solemnly and repeatedly given the Federal Council for the conviction that
- the present declaration will be
- considered as the legal affirmation
- of the consequences resulting for
- the Swiss Confederation out of the
- treaties and international engagements
- concerning it."

One notices that the note ~~notices~~ speaks of repeated engagements. Indeed, more than once, during those last years, the powers surrounding Switzerland have assumed that they would respect

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a few days ago /
Svis neutrality. Recently Italy and
Germany through their diplomatic representatives
in Rome and France through the
ministry of foreign affairs have renewed
the promises made to Switzerland.

But it is not enough to proclaim
the will to defend the neutrality and
integrity of Svis territory. We also need
the means to do so. Therefore, as soon
as the Svis government recognized the
imminence of an European conflict, it
has adopted the measures commanded
by the present circumstances. Successively
the troops covering the frontier and
then the entire Army had been mobilised.

The general mobilization began Saturday September 2nd and was completed, Sunday September 3rd at noon. On Monday morning the general staff was able to publish the following announcement:

- "The mobilization of our army has taken place calmly and with perfect precision. When Great Britain declared war on Germany on Sunday September 3rd our entire army was in position in its sectors of operation. Rifle by rifle ^{and with a resolute spirit} our troops are keeping guard of the county. Our people witness with justified pride this performance

'of the army & under whose protection
"My love."

To understand the entire importance
of this factor it is necessary to remember
that, in 1914, Parliament had only
completed the mobilization of the Sandhurst
~~Mobilized as soon as~~ ^{the mobilization of the Sandhurst} the first
shots were fired in Europe.

It is certain that ~~England~~ with this
military instrument the value of which has been
recognized by foreign powers who observed it
and its function in place time, England
is every occasion can and will
protect its neutrality.